United Nations TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/24

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
29 January 2014

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
Sixth session
Geneva, 9–10 April 2014
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development
4. Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development
5. Adoption of the report of the meeting

GE.14-50078
1450078

Please recycle

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1
Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the sixth session of the multi-year expert meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. The expert meeting will have two days to complete its work (9–10 April 2014). The provisional schedule of meetings for the two days is attached in the annex to this document. A detailed programme will be available at the latest one week before the start of the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/24 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3
Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development

3. The overall topic of the four sessions (the fifth to eighth sessions, years 2013–2016, respectively) of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development was decided at the fifty-fifth executive session of the Trade and Development Board in 2012. The terms of reference of the sixth session were approved at the meeting of the extended Bureau of the Board held on 30 November 2012. The main issues to be covered by the multi-year expert meeting are to monitor the developments, opportunities and challenges in commodity markets, giving due attention to those commodity sectors that are relevant to commodity-dependent developing countries.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/25 Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development

Item 4
Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development

4. The terms of reference for the sixth session indicate that the meeting will review and identify opportunities for commodity-based trade and development, with a focus on natural resources sectors – energy (oil and gas), and minerals and metals – with key issues relating to the energy matrix, including renewable energies; the capture of resource rents and their use for broad-based development (e.g. future generation fund, fiscal (taxation) regimes and sovereign wealth funds); and the integration of natural resources sector in broad-based national development policies and strategies.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/26 Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development

Expected outcome of the sixth session

5. The discussion on these topics, which will include presentations by national experts and experts from relevant international organizations and commodity bodies, as well as representatives of the private sector and civil society, will serve to put into focus and inform UNCTAD member States on the salient developments in key commodity sectors and markets from a development perspective. The discussion will provide a context for appraising the opportunities and challenges arising from new developments in the commodity markets and provide policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development.

6. To facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat will prepare two background notes entitled "Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development" and "Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development". The first document will review recent developments in key commodity markets, including agriculture, energy, and minerals, ores and metals. It will highlight price trends and driving forces of price movements. It will also identify some emerging developments in the global commodity economy that are set to change the commodity landscape and pose new challenges for commodity-dependent developing countries. The note will conclude with policy recommendations to address these challenges and ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development in commodity-dependent developing countries. The second document will review and identify opportunities in the sector of natural resources in order to raise awareness in resource-rich countries of design policies that enhance their possibilities to maximize the benefits of these resources in their national economies.

Item 5
Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its next session. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Input from experts: Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately five pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting and will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. Papers, which should draw on the experts' experience, may address one or more of the following issues:

(a) What have been the drivers of price trends in recent years in commodity markets and what are the opportunities and challenges faced by commodity-dependent developing countries stemming from these trends?

(b) Under which circumstances can trade in natural resources make a positive contribution to development?

(c) What mechanisms allow commodities derived from natural resources to enhance trade and contribute to sustainable development?

For more information, contact:

Samuel Gayi
Head, Special Unit on Commodities
UNCTAD
Office No. E.9030
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 917 2131
Fax.: +41 22 917 0509
E-mail: samuel.gayi@unctad.org

Annex

Provisional meeting schedule

Wednesday *9 April 2014*	*Thursday* *10 April 2014*
(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)	*(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)*
Plenary	**Item 4** Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development
Opening statement	
Item 1 Election of officers	
Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	
Item 3 Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development	
– Agricultural commodities	
(3 p.m.–6 p.m.)	*(3 p.m.–5.30 p.m.)*
Item 3 (con't.) Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development	**Item 4** (con't.) Natural resources sector: Review and identification of opportunities for commodity-based trade and development
– Minerals, ores and metals	
– Energy: oil, gas and coal	
	(5.30 p.m.–6 p.m.)
	Item 5 Adoption of the report of the meeting